



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD
9800 GOETHE ROAD - P.O. BOX 269101
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95826-9101**

31 August 2004

Commander

Dear, Prospective Officer Candidate School Applicant,

Congratulations on your selection. You are receiving this letter because you are qualified to take the first step toward leading the world's best soldiers-California Army National Guardsmen and women-as a platoon leader. Our nation is asking its military leaders to step up to the challenges inherent in a military officer's oath to protect our citizens, our constitution and our freedoms. This is particularly important during the Global War on Terror.

As a potential Officer Candidate, I am challenging you to enter our Officer Candidate School and begin a new adventure. Now, more than ever, California and our Nation require all patriots to step up to the plate and make a difference.

The California Army National Guard will conduct two Officer Candidate School (OCS) Symposia in October 2004 for the purpose of describing the OCS experience, detailing qualification requirements, and explaining the application process. The 223rd Regiment (Combat Arms) will host the Symposia at two different locations and dates as indicated below. Detailed strip maps to the Symposia can be found at www.calguard.ca.gov/ocs. I am enclosing a sheet which describes the general requirements for OCS and commissioning. You must attend one of the Symposiums for detailed information.

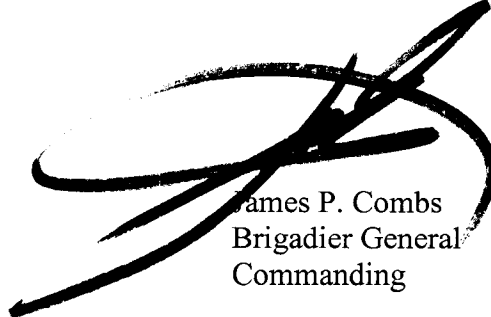
- a. Northern Symposium.
When: Saturday, 02 October 2004
Where: Camp Parks, Building 620, 790 5th St., Dublin, CA
- b. Southern Symposium.
When: Saturday, 23 October 2004
Where: Los Alamitos JFTB, Building 6, 4522 Saratoga Ave, Los Alamitos, CA

This important event will begin (Symposium) at 0900 hours and continue throughout the day. The uniform is BDU for soldiers, duty uniform for other services, and appropriate civilian attire for civilians. All soldiers will be in an official duty and travel status to attend this event. Please contact your unit to assist you with a request for orders. You may choose any duty status that suits your needs to attend (SUTA, RMA, or ADSW). All paid status include travel reimbursement costs. As a reminder, any problem that may occur with your orders will be corrected. Lodging is available for soldiers living outside the normal commuting range of the symposium locations by calling the following numbers.

- a. Camp Parks: (925) 875-4318

b. Los Alamitos, JFTB: (562) 795-2124

5. If you have ever thought that you had more to offer the Army than is possible in your current position, I urge you to seek enrollment into OCS. The California Army National Guard needs serious, motivated, and disciplined soldiers to lead our efforts in the Global War on Terrorism. We need you.



James P. Combs
Brigadier General
Commanding